

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-15

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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, OTRA, CO
SUBJECT: INVITATION BY US YOUTH COUNCIL TO COLOMBIANS

REF: A. USICA 16817; B. BOGOTA 7618

1. POST HAS RECEIVED PRIVATE CABLE FROM KEN SIMON, PRESIDENT OF US YOUTH COUNCIL, INFORMING US OF INVITATION FOR VISIT TO US OF COLOMBIAN DELEGATION OF TWO YOUNG CONSERVATIVES AND TWO YOUNG LIBERALS IN RETURN FOR COUTESIES EXTENDED TO USYC DELEGATION DURING ITS VISIT LAST MARCH. VISIT IS TO BE OCTOBER 28 THROUGH NOVEMBER 11.

2. EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER DONALD ROBERTS HAS RELAYED INVITATIONS; USYC'S LETTERS OF INITATION HAVE STILL NOT BEEN RECEIVED. THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSERVATIVE YOUTH (NATIONAL TRIUNVIRATE OF CONSERVATIVE YOUTH) IS PRESENTLY VIRTUALLY DEFUNCT, ALTHOUGH IT WILL PROBABLY BE REVIVED IN TIME FOR THE NEXT ELECTIONS; THE INVITATION WAS THEREFORE PASSED (WITH APPROVAL OF FEDERATION LEADER RAFAEL LOPEZ) TO ANOTHER CONSERVATIVE YOUTH GROUP, THE SOCIAL ACTION BRIGADES, WHICH ALSO WAS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE USYC DELEGATION'S VISIT AND WHOSE MEMBERSHIP LARGELY OVERLAPPED WITH THAT OF CONSERVATIVE YOUTH.

3. PARTICIPANTS FROM THE BRIGADE WILL BE LUIS IGNACIO
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ANDRADE BLANCO AND CARLOS ALFREDO QUINONES MACHLER, WITH JORGE ECHEVERRI HOYOS AND DANIEL SALAZAR LOPEZ AS ALTERNATES. ANDRADE (PRONOUNCED AHN-DRAH-DAY--WITH THE ACCENT ON THE SECOND SYLLABLE), A LAWYER WORKING IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR, IS 25 YEARS OLD AND UNMARRIED; HIS NICKNAME IS LUCHO (PRONOUNCED LOO-CHO). QUINONES (PRONOUNCED KEEN-YO-NACE, WITH THE ACCENT ON THE SECOND SYLLABLE), ALSO A LAWYER, IS SECRETARY GENERAL OF AN INSURANCE

COMPANY, COMPANIA AGRICOLA DE SEGUROS. CALLED "CARLOS" BY HIS FRIENDS, HE IS 24 YEARS OLD AND UNMARRIED. THE SOCIAL ACTION BRIGADES MAKE DECISIONS BY CONSENSUS AND HAVE NO FORMAL OFFICERS OR HIERARCHIES; ANDRADE AND QUINONES THUS HAVE NO POSITION TITLES BUT ARE AMONG THE ORGANIZATIONS' DE FACTO LEADERS. DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THE ORGANIZATION MAY BE ADDRESSED BY MAIL TO "BRIGADAS DE ACCION SOCIAL, APARTADO 1472, BOGOTA, COLOMBIA" OR BY TELEX TO "TELEX 45501 AGRIS CO" FOR QUINONES.

4. PROPOSED DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE TO CONSERVATIVES. ACCORDING TO MARTA GOENAGA, A LIBERAL YOUTH LEADER, THE DATES SHOULD NOT PRESENT A PROBLEM FOR THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBERAL YOUTH; HOWEVER, DUE TO THE EXTENDED ABSENCE FROM THE COUNTRY OF THE FEDERATION'S INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY, FERNANDO SANCHEZ, THE TWO LIBERAL DELEGATES HAVE STILL NOT BEEN CHOSEN. (IDEALLY, SANCHEZ WOULD BE ONE OF THE TWO). SANCHEZ WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE RETURNED TO BOGOTA OCTOBER 8, BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT. SANCHEZ IS SAID TO BE PASSING THROUGH WASHINGTON ON HIS WAY TO COLOMBIA; IF SO, HE MAY CONTACT EITHER USYC HEADQUARTERS OR USYC MEMBERS RON ROBINSON OR JESSICA SMITH, IN WHICH CASE THE PROPOSED VISIT CAN BE DISCUSSED THERE.

5. INFORMATION ON PROPOSED PROGRAM WOULD BE APPRECIATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE DETAILS ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

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6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CONTACT USYC AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO RELAY ABOVE INFORMATION AND REQUESTS. EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER ROBERTS WILL HANDLE COORDINATION HERE.
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